

that Amendment to correct the listing of claims with proper status designations, as follows:

In the Claims:

1 1-46. (Previously Cancelled)

1 47-66. (Cancelled herein)

1 67. (Currently Amended) A method of locating a graft assembly in
2 relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly
3 including (i) a graft having an orifice at an end thereof, and (ii) a plurality of arms
4 extending away from the orifice at the end of the graft, comprising the steps of:
5 aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and
6 locating the plurality of arms through the arteriotomy and within the blood
7 vessel.

1 68. (Cancelled herein)

1 69. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 67, wherein
2 each of the plurality of arms extends through the arteriotomy and is located
3 adjacent to a an interior wall of the blood vessel.

1 70. (Currently Amended) The A method of claim 67 wherein locating
2 a graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the

3 graft assembly including (i) a graft having an orifice; and (ii) a plurality of arms
4 extending away from the orifice of the graft, and (iii): ~~the graft assembly further~~
5 ~~includes~~ a flange portion, ~~and with~~ each of the plurality of arms ~~are~~ positioned in
6 contact with the flange portion-, the method comprising the steps of:

7 aligning the orifice of the graft assembly with the arteriotomy; and
8 locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel.

1 71. (Original) The method of claim 70, wherein at least a part of each of
2 the plurality of arms is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 72. (Original) The method of claim 67, wherein the blood vessel is an
2 aorta.

1 73. (Original) The method of claim 67, wherein the graft is a synthetic
2 graft.

1 74. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of claim 67, wherein each of
2 ~~the plurality of arms extends radially away from the orifice of the graft. locating a~~
3 graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft
4 assembly including (i) a graft having an orifice, and (ii) a plurality of arms
5 extending radially away from the orifice of the graft, comprising the steps of:
6 aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and

7 locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel.

1 75. (Currently Amended) The A method of claim 67, further locating a

2 graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft

3 assembly including (i) a graft having an orifice, and (ii) a plurality of arms

4 extending away from the orifice of the graft, comprising the steps of:

5 prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and

6 advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is

7 located within the delivery device;

8 aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and

9 locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel;

10 wherein each of the plurality of arms is located in a first position in relation

11 to the graft during the advancing step, and

12 wherein each of the plurality of arms moves from the first position to a

13 second position in relation to the graft after the advancing step.

1 76. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein each of the plurality of

2 arms moves from the first position to the second position due to spring action.

1 77. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of claim 67, wherein the

2 ~~plurality of arms includes at least four (4) arms. locating a graft assembly in~~

3 relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly

4 including (i) a graft having an orifice, and (ii) a plurality of arms including at least

5 four (4) arms extending away from the orifice of the graft, comprising the steps of:

6 aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and

7 locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel.

1 78. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein each of the plurality of

2 arms is maintained in the first position by an inner wall of the delivery device.

1 79. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of claim 67, further locating a

2 graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft

3 assembly including (i) a graft having an orifice, and (ii) a plurality of arms

4 extending away from the orifice of the graft, comprising the steps of:

5 aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy;

6 locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel; and

7 inhibiting movement of the graft in a direction away from the blood vessel

8 due to physical interaction between the plurality of arms and the blood vessel.

1 80. (Original) A method of locating a graft assembly in relation to an
2 arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly including a graft and
3 a resilient support secured thereto, comprising the steps of:

4 locating the graft within a delivery device;

5 advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is
6 located within the delivery device; and

7 removing the graft from the delivery device after the advancing step,

8 wherein the resilient support is maintained in a first configuration during the
9 advancing step, and

10 wherein the resilient support moves from the first configuration to a second
11 configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

1 81. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein after the removing step:

2 a first portion of the resilient support is located adjacent to a sidewall of the
3 blood vessel when the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

1 82. (Original) The method of claim 81, wherein after the removing step:

2 a second portion of the resilient support extends in a direction away from the
3 blood vessel when the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

1 83. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:

2 at least some of the first portion is located within the blood vessel, and

3 at least some of the second portion is located outside of the blood vessel.

1 84. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:

2 all of the first portion is located outside of the blood vessel, and

3 all of the second portion is located outside of the blood vessel.

1 85. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein:

2 the graft assembly further includes a flange portion, and

3 at least some of the resilient support is positioned in contact with the flange

4 portion.

1 86. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein the at least some of the

2 resilient support is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 87. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein the blood vessel is an

2 aorta.

1 88. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein the graft is a synthetic

2 graft.

1 89. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:

2 the second portion of the resilient support extends radially away from an

3 orifice of the graft when the resilient support is positioned in the second
4 configuration.

1 90. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein the resilient support
2 includes a plurality of spring arms.

1 91. (Original) The method of claim 90, wherein the plurality of spring
2 arms includes at least four (4) spring arms.

1 92. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein the resilient support
2 member is maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an
3 inner wall of the delivery device.

1 93. (Original) The method of claim 80, further comprising the step of
2 inhibiting movement of the graft in a direction away from the blood vessel with the
3 resilient support while the resilient support is positioned in the second
4 configuration.

1 94. (Original) A method of placing a graft assembly in relation to an
2 arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly including a graft and
3 a plurality of spring arms, comprising the steps of:
4 aligning an orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and
5 locating the plurality of spring arms adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel.

1 95. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring
2 arms are located within the blood vessel after the locating step.

1 96. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring
2 arms are located outside of the blood vessel after the locating step.

1 97. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the blood vessel is an
2 aorta.

1 98. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the graft is a synthetic
2 graft.

1 99. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of
2 spring arms is located adjacent to an end of the graft.

1 100. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of
2 spring arms is located adjacent to the orifice of the graft.

1 101. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein:
2 the graft assembly further includes a flange portion, and
3 each of the plurality of spring arms is positioned in contact with the flange
4 portion.

1 102. (Original) The method of claim 101, wherein at least a part of each of
2 the plurality of spring arms is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 103. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of
2 spring arms extends radially away from the orifice of the graft after the locating
3 step.

1 104. (Original) The method of claim 94, further comprising the steps of:
2 prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and
3 advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is
4 located within the delivery device,

5 wherein each of the plurality of spring arms is located in a first position in
6 relation to the graft during the advancing step, and

7 wherein each of the plurality of spring arms moves from the first position to
8 a second position in relation to the graft after the advancing step.

1 105. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring
2 arms includes at least four (4) spring arms.

1 106. The method of claim 104, wherein each of the plurality of spring arms
2 is maintained in the first position due to physical interaction with an inner wall of
3 the delivery device.

1 107. (Original) The method of claim 94, further comprising the step of
2 inhibiting movement of the graft in a direction away from the blood vessel due to
3 physical interaction between the plurality of spring arms and an interior wall of the
4 blood vessel.

1 108. (Currently Amended) An anastomosis method for placing in a
2 blood vessel a conduit assembly including a blood-flow conduit having a resilient
3 flange integrally formed on an end thereof, the method comprising:

4 placing a the conduit assembly adjacent to in an arteriotomy defined in a
5 blood vessel, in alignment of wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow
6 conduit and a resilient member secured thereto, and wherein the placing step
7 includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the
8 arteriotomy, (ii) locating with a first portion of the conduit assembly including the
9 resilient member flange within the blood vessel, and (iii) locating a second portion
10 of the resilient member conduit assembly outside of the blood vessel.

1 109. (Currently Amended) The An anastomosis method of claim 108,
2 comprising:

3 placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood
4 vessel;
5 wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient

6 member secured thereto; and

7 wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the
8 blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a first portion of the resilient
9 member within the blood vessel, and (iii) locating a second portion of the resilient
10 member outside of the blood vessel; and

11 wherein the first portion locating step includes the steps of:

12 bending the resilient member to a first configuration;

13 advancing the first portion of the resilient member through the arteriotomy

14 while the resilient member is in the first configuration; and

15 allowing the resilient member to move from the first configuration to a

16 second configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

1 110. (Currently Amended) ~~The An anastomosis method of claim 109,~~

2 comprising:

3 placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood

4 vessel;

5 wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient

6 member secured thereto; and

7 wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the

8 blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a first portion of the resilient
9 member within the blood vessel, and (iii) locating a second portion of the resilient
10 member outside of the blood vessel; and

11 wherein the first portion locating step further includes the step of positioning
12 the first portion of the resilient member adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel.

1 111. (Cancelled herein)

1 112. (Cancelled herein)

1 113. (Currently Amended) The An anastomosis method of claim 108,

2 wherein the blood vessel is comprising:

3 placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in an a blood
4 vessel aorta;

5 wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient
6 member secured thereto; and

7 wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the
8 blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a first portion of the resilient
9 member within blood vessel the aorta, and (iii) locating a second portion of the
10 resilient member outside of the blood vessel aorta.

1 114. (Original) The method of claim 108, wherein the blood flow
2 conduit is a synthetic graft.

1 115. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 108, wherein the ~~first~~
2 ~~portion of the conduit assembly includes resilient member members in the flange~~
3 ~~that each extends inside the blood vessel radially away from the orifice of the~~
4 ~~blood flow conduit and extends through the arteriotomy in contact with and along~~
5 ~~the blood flow conduit after the first portion locating placing step.~~

1 116. (Cancelled herein)

1 117. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An anastomosis method of claim 108,
2 comprising:

3 placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood
4 vessel;

5 wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient
6 member secured thereto; and

7 wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the
8 blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a ~~the~~ first portion of the
9 resilient member ~~includes~~ including a plurality of struts within the blood vessel,
10 and (iii) locating a second portion of the resilient member outside of the blood
11 vessel.

1 118. (Original) The method of claim 117, wherein the second portion of
2 the resilient member is attached to the graft.

1 119. (Original) The method of claim 117, wherein the plurality of struts
2 includes at least four (4) struts.

1 120. (Currently Amended) ~~The An anastomosis method of claim 108,~~
2 ~~further comprising the step of~~
3 placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood
4 vessel;

5 wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient
6 member secured thereto; and

7 inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from the
8 blood vessel due to physical interaction between the first portion of the resilient
9 member and the blood vessel; .

10 wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the
11 blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a first portion of the resilient
12 member within the blood vessel, and (iii) locating a second portion of the resilient
13 member outside of the blood vessel.

1 121. (Original) A method of positioning a conduit assembly in relation to

2 an arteriotomy, with the conduit assembly including a blood flow conduit and a

3 strut assembly, comprising the steps of:

4 placing the blood flow conduit within an interior space of a delivery device;

5 and

6 advancing a distal end of the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while

7 the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space of the delivery device;

8 wherein the strut assembly is positioned in a first configuration during the

fi 9 advancing step; and

10 wherein the strut assembly moves from the first configuration to a second

11 configuration after the advancing step.

1 122. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly

2 includes a plurality of struts.

1 123. (Original) The method of claim 122, wherein each of the plurality of

2 struts extend outwardly from an orifice of the blood flow conduit when the strut

3 assembly is positioned in the second configuration.

1 124. (Original) The method of claim 123, further comprising the step of

2 aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy.

1 125. (Original) The method of claim 121, further comprising the step of
2 positioning each of the plurality of struts adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel after
3 the advancing step.

1 126. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is located within the blood vessel after the positioning step.

1 127. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is located outside of the blood vessel after the positioning step.

1 128. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is located adjacent to an end of the blood flow conduit.

1 129. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein:

2 the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion, and
3 each of the plurality of struts is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

1 130. (Original) The method of claim 129, wherein at least a part of each of
2 the plurality of struts is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 131. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein the blood vessel is an
2 aorta.

1 132. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein the graft is a synthetic

2 graft.

1 133. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly

2 moves from the first configuration to the second configuration due to spring action.

1 134. (Original) The method of claim 122, wherein the plurality of struts

2 includes at least four (4) struts.

1 135. (Original) The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly is

2 maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an inner wall

3 of the delivery device.

1 136. (Original) The method of claim 121, further comprising the step of

2 inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from a blood

3 vessel in which the arteriotomy is defined due to physical interaction between the

4 strut assembly and the blood vessel when the strut assembly is in the second

5 configuration.

1 137. (Original) A method of locating a conduit assembly in relation to an

2 opening defined in a blood vessel, with the conduit assembly including a blood

3 flow conduit and a plurality of struts, comprising:

4 advancing the plurality of struts into the blood vessel through the opening;

5 and

6 aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the opening defined in the
7 blood vessel.

1 138. (Original) The method of claim 137, further comprising the step of
2 locating the plurality of struts adjacent to an interior wall of the blood vessel.

1 139. (Original) The method of claim 138, further comprising the step of
2 urging each of the plurality of struts against the interior wall of the blood vessel.

1 140. (Original) The method of claim 139, wherein the urging step includes
2 the step of placing a stent within the blood vessel and adjacent to the plurality of
3 struts to urge the struts against the interior wall of the blood vessel.

1 141. (Original) The method of claim 138, wherein the locating step
2 includes the step of positioning each of the plurality of struts to extend radially
3 away from the opening defined in the blood vessel.

1 142. (Original) The method of claim 137, further including the steps of:
2 prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and
3 moving the delivery device toward the opening defined in the blood vessel
4 while the graft is located within the delivery device;

5 wherein each of the plurality of struts is located in a first physical
6 arrangement in relation to the blood flow conduit during the moving step; and

7 wherein each of the plurality of struts is reconfigured from the first physical
8 arrangement to a second physical arrangement in relation to the blood flow conduit
9 after the moving step.

1 143. (Original) The method of claim 142, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts moves from the first physical arrangement to the second physical
3 arrangement due to spring action.

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1 144. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is located adjacent to an end of the blood flow conduit.

1 145. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein:
2 the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion; and
3 each of the plurality of struts is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

1 146. (Original) The method of claim 145, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 147. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein the blood vessel is an
2 aorta.

1 148. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein the blood flow conduit
2 is a synthetic graft.

1 149. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts extends radially away from the orifice of the blood flow conduit after the
3 advancing step.

1 150. (Original) The method of claim 137, wherein the plurality of struts
2 includes at least four (4) struts.

1 151. (Original) The method of claim 142, wherein each of the plurality of
2 struts is maintained in the first configuration by an inner wall of the delivery
3 device.

1 152. (Original) The method of claim 137, further comprising the step of
2 inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from the blood
3 vessel due to physical interaction between the plurality of struts and the blood
4 vessel.

1 153. (Original) A method of placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an
2 arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, the conduit assembly including a blood flow
3 conduit and a resilient support secured thereto, comprising the steps of:
4 bending the resilient support into a first configuration,

5 advancing the resilient support partially through the arteriotomy while the

6 resilient member is in the first configuration, and

7 allowing the resilient support to move from the first configuration to a

8 second configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

1 154. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein the blood vessel is an

2 aorta.

1 155. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein the blood flow conduit

2 is a synthetic graft.

1 156. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein:

2 the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion;

3 the resilient support includes at least one arm; and

4 the at least one arm is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

1 157. (Original) The method of claim 156, wherein at least one arm is

2 integrally positioned within the flange portion.

1 158. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein at least one arm extends

2 radially away from an orifice of the blood flow conduit after the allowing step.

1 159. (Original) The method of claim 153, further comprising the steps of:

2 prior to the advancing step, locating the blood flow conduit within a delivery
3 device; and

4 advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the blood flow
5 conduit is located within the delivery device.

1 160. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein the resilient support
2 includes a plurality of arms.

1 161. (Original) The method of claim 160, wherein the plurality of arms
2 includes at least four (4) arms which are spaced apart from each other.

f 1 162. (Original) The method of claim 159, wherein the resilient support
2 member is maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an
3 inner wall of the delivery device.

1 163. (Original) The method of claim 153, wherein the allowing step is
2 performed while a first portion of the resilient support is positioned on a first side
3 of the arteriotomy and a second portion of the resilient support is positioned on a
4 second side of the arteriotomy.

1 164. (Original) The method of claim 163, wherein:
2 the first portion of the resilient support is positioned within the blood vessel,
3 and

4 the second portion of the resilient support is positioned outside of the blood
5 vessel.

1 165. (Original) The method of claim 164, wherein the first portion of the
2 resilient support includes a plurality of support arms.

1 166. (Original) The method of claim 153, further comprising the step of
2 inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit away from the blood vessel due to
3 physical interaction between the resilient support and the blood vessel after the
4 allowing step.

1 167.-424. (Cancelled herein)
